

To: Chairperson Schubart and Trustees
From: Chief Tom Bremner
Date: November 21st / 2011
Sub: SSIFR Monthly Report (October/2011)



- Our website; www.saltspringfire.com continues to be updated on a regular basis, and we encourage people to visit our site. We also have a large group of followers on our Facebook and Twitter sites as well as the Salt Spring Community Exchange, which focuses on public announcements and information.
- Members continued to be busy this month with training, work duties and calls for assistance. In September the SSIFR responded to **35 calls for assistance**.

Response types were:

First Responder	16
Complaints	3
Haz-Mat	2
Motor Vehicle Incidents	4
Alarms	8
Bush / Grass Fires	1
Public Assists	1

- Our American LaFrance pumper is out of service due to a mechanical breakdown, it is currently in Abbotsford at the ALF representative BC dealer's shop being repaired in aims for a mid December return to service on Salt Spring
- Fund Raising efforts during the month, raising a total of over \$7000.00 for the Breast Cancer Society of Canada.

Training Division report:

- Our members put in 480 hours on Tuesday nights through-out the month on the following topics: CPR, Fire Prevention, Forcible Entry, Rope Rescue and Ventilation.
- An additional 178 hours was put in on such courses as First Responder Re-cert and a Critical Incident Stress Management symposium.
- Our recruit members continued to progress with basic firefighter training and written test evaluations.
- Our Fulford training ground is very close to completion.

➤ **Fire Inspection / Prevention Division report:**

Commercial Inspections	17
Commercial Re-inspection	11
Responses to Emergencies	25
Category 3 Burn Pile Inspections	16
Review of Fire Safety Plans	1
Car Child-Seat Installs	1
Lockbox Installation	1 + 1 purchase
Battery Smoke Alarm requests	0
Public Information / Training	9 (approx 750 children – 100 Adults)
Public Education Tours	5 Sessions
Subdivision / Plan Reviews	3
Water Storage Tank Reviews	1
Provincial Licensing Inspections	2
Burning Permits issued to date	1800
Fire Alarm System Test	1
Paperwork / Administration	Endless



- This was very busy month for Public Education on Salt Spring Island. We visited five elementary School and three day care facilities, making contact with over 430 children. The common theme was, "Protecting your family from fire."
- On October 15th, we held our annual Fire Prevention Week Open House at Ganges Fire hall. Although difficult to count how many attended, estimates were between 250 – 300 people. A lot of good information, and practical training was passed on.
- Contact was also made with Robin Clark. Robin was a forester who helped put together the Community Wildland Interface Fire Protection Plan for Salt Spring Island, back in November 2005. Mr Clarke will be visiting in November doing a follow up on recommendations made through that plan. He will be making a short presentation to the staff and officers on Thursday night November 17th.
- Although we installed no smoke alarms this month, we continue to receive calls regarding them. A provincial initiative has been set – up, and we can now recycle smoke alarms at the SSI Recycling Center.
- Burning permits are required effective April 15th each year until October 15th each year. They are good until April 15th of the following year before renewal is required for all classes of burning except Class 3. Permits can be obtained (for free) at the Ganges Fire Station during regular office hours. Category 3 Machine piles require an inspection prior to a permit being authorized during anytime of the year. All classifications of fire burning are open for burning.
- Chief requests an "In Camera" session relating to; (Property & Legal) items.